



Naval Station, San Diego Environmental Cleanup Program

Removal Action Fact Sheet No. 2

June 1996

This fact sheet has been developed to inform the public about the opportunity to provide input to the U.S. Navy regarding a proposed removal action planned for Naval Station, San Diego. This action is being taken as part of the Navy's Installation Restoration Program. The program is designed to investigate and cleanup hazardous waste sites in accordance with federal and state laws and regulations.

The public is invited to review and comment on the Time Critical Removal Action Memorandum/Remedial Action Plan. The 30-day public review and comment period is from June 15 to July 14, 1996. The document is available at the two local libraries listed on the back page of this fact sheet. The public is also invited to attend a public meeting on June 26 at 7:30 p.m. to submit verbal or written comments on the Action Memorandum/Remedial Action Plan. An indepth discussion of the planned removal action will be presented during the Restoration Advisory Board meeting beginning at 6:30 p.m. at the National City Radisson Hotel.

Removal Action Scheduled for Naval Station- Public Review Period Now Open

Introduction

The U.S. Navy is proposing to excavate and remove approximately 6,500 cubic yards of polychlorinated biphenyls (PCBs)



and lead-contaminated soil in the area of the Salvage Yard parking lot at Naval Station, San Diego. This action is necessary to restore the parking lot surface, protect the health and safety of those on base, and to protect the environment. Following public review and comment, the Navy plans to begin the excavation in July, 1996 and complete the removal action within seven weeks.

A Time Critical Removal Action Memorandum/Remedial Action Plan has been prepared to document the Navy's decision to conduct this excavation and removal. The memorandum provides a complete description of the site and the results of the investigations conducted to date. It also provides the results of the human health and environmental risks analysis, and the proposed cleanup action.

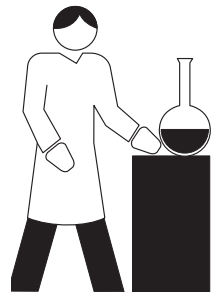
Site Background

The Salvage Yard parking lot area (Site 3) was used as a salvage yard and a transformer storage area from 1943 to 1975. It is located in the central portion of Naval Station, San Diego. The site is bordered by Cummings Road, Harbor

Drive, Paleta Creek and a parking lot. Paleta Creek borders the southern portion of the Salvage Yard and is approximately 300 feet from the site. The Salvage Yard measures approximately 1050 feet by 300 feet in total. There are no endangered wildlife habitats, or reported endangered species, or sites of archaeological significance located on Site 3.

Investigation Results

Several investigations were conducted at the site between 1976 and 1987. Site investigations resumed in 1992 and 1996. The findings confirmed the presence of contaminated soil in concentrations above the standards set by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency. The soil is contaminated with compounds known as polychlorinated biphenyls (PCBs). These are man-made chemicals used in electrical equipment. PCBs have a low mobility in soil, cause adverse skin conditions, and are resistant to biodegradation. Some PCBs have been shown to potentially cause increased tumor production in laboratory animals.



Additionally, the soil is contaminated with lead. Lead is a naturally occurring element, but found in elevated concentrations in the environment due to human activities. The U.S. EPA has

designated lead as carcinogenic (cancer causing). Lead is a neurotoxin that can cause behavioral effects, particularly in children.

Cleanup Action

Human health is not immediately threatened because the contaminants are present below the asphalt surface. However, without a removal action exposure may result as the asphalt surface deteriorates. Large portions of the asphalt parking surface are currently unsuitable for use as a result of eruptions on the asphalt surface from underlying shallow battery casings used as fill. Long-term adverse effects may result from stormwater infiltration leaking hazardous substances into the groundwater and eventually into Paleta Creek and San Diego Bay. There is also potential for direct human exposure if the asphalt is removed in future construction activities. The proposed cleanup action will substantially reduce any potential threat from the contaminants. The Navy proposes to excavate approximately 6,500 cubic yards of PCB and lead-contaminated soil and transport it to a licensed



landfill for treatment and disposal. The Navy will utilize specially-equipped trucks to transport the soil off the base using the 8th Street gate and traveling north on Interstate 5. Dust

control measures and air-monitoring equipment will be used for the duration of the cleanup. The removal action would begin in July, 1996 and continue for approximately seven weeks.

Public Participation

In accordance with federal and state public participation requirements, the proposed removal action is subject to a 30-day public review and comment period, which is scheduled from June 15 to July 14, 1996. Written comments must be postmarked no later than July 14, 1996, and sent to Commanding Officer, NAVSTA Environmental, Code 22, Attn: Theresa Morley, 3395 Sturtevant Street, Suite 6, San Diego, CA, 92136-5071.

To learn more about the proposed cleanup action, the public is invited to attend the Naval Station, San Diego Restoration Advisory Board meeting. The meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, June 26 at the Radisson Hotel, 801 National City Blvd., National City beginning at 6:30 p.m. Public comment will be accepted beginning at 7:30 p.m.



Administrative Record File

The Navy has included the *Preliminary Final Time-Critical Removal Action Memorandum/Remedial Action Plan, Site 3, Naval Station, San Diego* in the administrative record file for public review. The file also includes

investigation reports, sampling and analysis information, and other documents that the Navy has referenced to select the appropriate cleanup method. The administrative record file is available for public review at Southwest Division Naval Facilities Engineering Command located at 1220 Pacific Highway, San Diego. Contact Administrative Record Coordinator, Chris Potter at (619) 532-1226. The Action Memorandum/Remedial Action Plan and an index of the administrative record file are also available for public review at the two following locations:

- National City Public Library
220 East 12th Street
National City, CA 91950
(619) 336-4280
- Naval Station, San Diego Base Library
Building 152
San Diego, CA 92136-507
(619) 556-1249

For More Information

For more information about this removal action and Naval Station, San Diego's Installation Restoration Program, please contact:

Commanding Officer,
NAVSTA, Environmental, Code 22
Attn: Theresa Morley
3395 Sturtevant Street, Suite 6
San Diego, CA 92136-5071
(619) 556-6438

Jennifer Rich
Public Participation Specialist
Department of Toxic Substances Control
245 West Broadway, Suite 350
Long Beach, CA 90802
(310) 590-4914



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